

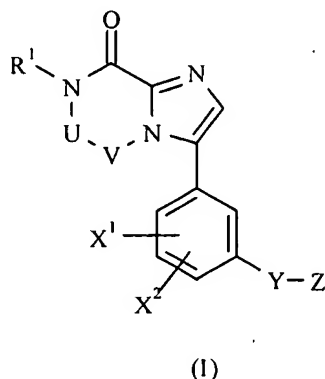
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 11-20 without prejudice and insert therefore new Claims 21-30. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (canceled)

21. (New) A compound of the formula I:



wherein:

-U-V- represents -CH=CH-, or -CH₂-CH₂-;

X¹ represents hydrogen, halogen, C₁₋₆ alkyl, trifluoromethyl or C₁₋₆ alkoxy;

X² represents hydrogen or halogen;

Y represents a chemical bond;

Z represents a substituted phenyl or triazolyl group, wherein the substituent is selected from fluoro, chloro, cyano, nitro, methyl, hydroxy, methoxy, oxy, methanesulphonyl, amino, aminocarbonyl, formyl, methoxycarbonyl and -CH=NOH;

R¹ represents C₁₋₆ alkyl, halo(C₁₋₆)alkyl, methyl-triazolylmethyl or pyridinylmethyl;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

22. (New) The compound of Claim 21 wherein -U-V- represents -CH=CH-.

23. (New) The compound of Claim 21 wherein R¹ is methyl, ethyl, fluoroethyl, difluoroethyl, trifluoroethyl, isopropyl, methyl-triazolylmethyl or pyridinylmethyl.

24. (New) The compound of Claim 21 wherein X¹ is fluorine and X² is hydrogen.

25. (New) The compound of Claim 21 wherein Z is a substituted phenyl or triazolyl group, wherein the substituent is selected from fluoro, chloro, cyano and methyl.

26. (New) A compound which is selected from the group consisting of:

2'-fluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-2'-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

2'-fluoro-5'-[7-(2-fluoroethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

5'-[7-(2,2-difluoroethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]-2'-fluorobiphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-[7-(2,2-difluoroethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-[7-(1-methylethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
3-chloro-2'-fluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-4-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-[7-(2-fluoroethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4'-fluoro-3'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5'-fluoro-3'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
2,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-4-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-[7-(2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-[7-(2-methyl-2H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethyl)-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
3-[4-fluoro-3-(1-methyl-1H-[1,2,3]triazol-4-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-7-methyl-7H-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-8-one;
3-[4-fluoro-3-(2-methyl-2H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-7-methyl-7H-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-8-one;
7-ethyl-3-[4-fluoro-3-(2-methyl-2H-[1,2,4]triazol-3-ylmethoxy)phenyl]-7H-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-8-one;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-[8-oxo-7-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl]biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
4,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;
5,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

6,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

6,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

6,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-ethyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

5,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-[8-oxo-7-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-imidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

6,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-5,6,7,8-tetrahydroimidazo[1,2-a]pyrazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

4,2'-difluoro-5'-(7-methyl-8-oxo-7,8-dihydroimidazo[1,2-d][1,2,4]triazin-3-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

3'-(1-methyl-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropurin-9-yl)biphenyl-2-carbonitrile;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

27. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of Claim 21 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

28. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of Claim 26 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.